

By: Solomons

H.J.R. No. 56

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to restrict the power of the  
2 legislature to mandate requirements upon certain local  
3 governments.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Article III of the Texas Constitution is amended  
6 by adding Section 68 as follows:

7 Sec. 68. (a) No bill enacted by the legislature on or after  
8 January 1, 2012 requiring a local government to establish, expand,  
9 or modify a duty or activity that requires the expenditure of  
10 revenue by the local government shall be effective until and unless  
11 the legislature appropriates or otherwise provides for the payment  
12 or reimbursement, from a source other than the revenue of the local  
13 government, or the costs incurred for the biennium by the local  
14 government in complying with the requirement.

15 (b) For the purpose of this section, "local government"  
16 includes a county, a city, a hospital district, a community college  
17 district, or a special district created by the action of a county,  
18 city, hospital district, or community college.

19 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
20 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2011.  
21 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
22 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to restrict the power  
23 of the legislature from mandating unfunded requirements upon local  
24 governments."